

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SY-05 SCCT-01 (ISO) W

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R 240921Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1776

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 1249

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, LY

SUBJECT: RAOUF M'HENNI DISAPPEARANCE

REF: TUNIS 1017

1. TUNIS PRESS REPORTED ON FEBRUARY 22 THAT GOT HIGH REPRESENTATIVE IN LIBYA MAHMOUD CHARCHOUR HAD GIVEN AN "URGENT MESSAGE" FROM PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA TO COL. QADHAFI. CHARCHOUR HAD COME TO TUNIS EARLIER TO RECEIVE THE MESSAGE PERSONALLY FROM BOURGUIBA. NO DETAILS OF THIS MESSAGE HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC, BUT WE UNDERSTAND IT DEALT WITH DISAPPEARANCE OF RAOUF M'HENNI. BOURGUIBA REPORTEDLY TOLD QADHAFI THAT GOT IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT M'HENNI'S CONTINUED DISAPPEARANCE AND CONNECTS HIS RELEASE TO CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE M'HENNI CASE, THE PRESS DID NOT PUBLISH A FOLLOW-UP ON THE FEBRUARY 12 DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE LIBYAN EMBASSY. LIBYAN HIGH REPRESENTATIVE ZENTANI WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE PROMISED TO GIVE THE M'HENNI FAMILY A REPORT ON LARG EFFORTS TO FIND RAOUF. FEBRUARY 15 PRESS DID REPORT, HOWEVER, THAT FAMILY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM YOUNG M'HENNI IN WHICH HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHERE HE WAS BEING HELD BUT THAT HE WAS WELL TREATED. LETTER REPORTEDLY CONTAINED
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MORE INFORMATION, BUT PRESS DID NOT GIVE ANY DETAILS

ON REASONS FOR DISAPPEARANCES NOR POSSIBLE TERMS OF
RELEASE.
SEELYE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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